

National Republican.

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WASHINGTON, AUGUST 18, 1879.

"I HAVE no claims to the office," says General Grant. But the office may have some claims upon him, nevertheless.

THE Baltimore postmaster is being tortured behind the tiled doors of an investigation. Whose work is it? It wears a bad look.

THE English newspapers have begun to abuse Talmage. This will not hasten his return home, however, for the same habit prevails here.

THE Minnesota wheat crop this year will bring a return of \$50,000,000, or \$50 to every man, woman and child in the State. Here's a field—a harvest field, so to speak—for HENDRICK B. WHITE.

THE New York newspapers are kicking up a rumpus because there is one "alleged burglar" on the police force of that city. If the allegation could be proven, the kicking would undoubtedly subside.

GENERAL GRANT says he has had his "share of it," meaning the Presidency. Whereat the "many able and distinguished" men who have earned the office—and who has not, in his own opinion?—will take courage.

THE anti-ewing men among the soft-money Democrats of Ohio are getting up a Pendergast boom. It will be a job-boom, of course, and when it jibes about old man THURMAN will either have to duck his head or be knocked overboard.

LOOK out for an early collapse. The Democratic wind organ has pretty much played the full tune of the SPRAGUE scandal, and when that subsides it will lapse into its normal state of dirty stupidity, unrelieved by the lively character of its late feat of nastiness. It feeds on foul diet, and only thrives when that is abundant.

The Washington Post speaks of a local contemporary as the *Washington Republican*. Is this pure candor or merely spelling reform?—*Liberty Evening Journal*.

People here think that concern spells as well as it knows. It is more celebrated for fillety, its tramp-like characteristics, and its beastliness than for its amicities and refinements in any direction.

THE *Pittsburgh Gazette* says truly:

"The CONKING-SPRING scandal is a commentary on the carelessness and frivolity found in public, fashionable life. Nothing has yet developed to prove anything criminal between the parties, and Mrs. SPRAGUE is believed to have too large an interest in the SPRAGUE estate, which is declared not to be insolvent, to risk all by infidelity to her marital vows."

GENERAL GRANT talked plain English to the Viceroy of China when he declared that he did not seek a re-election to be President. But he might have been more explicit when saying that "there are others" who have risen to great distinction at "home, and who have earned the honor," "who are worthy; and to them it belongs," "not to me." Now, whom did he mean?

CIRCUS advertisements in some of the newspapers of New York State are very naturally misunderstood to be political cartoons. The big elephant carrying a little one on its back is supposed to be a representation of TILDEN totting Governor ROBINSON around the ring. The only incompleteness in the show is the absence of something to represent the Democracy carrying the big one.

"I HAVE held the office of President as long as it has ever been held by any man," "I have had all the honors that can or should be given to any citizen." This plain, blunt statement of General GRANT's feelings regarding the Third-Term question will be duly submitted to the next Republican convention. But there is a question whether it will be fully ratified by that body.

THE Hon. THOMAS B. KEOGH, of North Carolina, has been at his home in Greensboro, in that State, for a week or more. He was nevertheless interviewed at the Star-vent House in New York last Friday, and the result of the interview was duly printed as serious and reliable news in the *Times* and *Evening Post* of Saturday. There are people who call this kind of thing newspaper enterprise, and we, add, there are people who are liars.

GENERAL EWING says he left the Republican party because of the reconstruction measures. If that be so, and it is known in Ohio, he has selected an unfortunate State in which to run for Governor. The people of Ohio believe in reconstruction. EWING would run better in Mississippi than in the Buckeye State, and is beaten now. It is all over but the shouting, though the canvass is scarcely begun. Poor EWING! The last victim of a vain ambition.

Now it would appear that Mrs. SPRAGUE has burned the bridges behind her and forfeited, to some extent, the claim she has hitherto had upon the chivalry of the press. She has begun to abuse her husband in public. So long as she did this in private it made no difference, or very little, to outsiders; but she has made a great mistake

in adding even the slightest particle to the avalanche of mud with which she herself and the other parties to the Narragansett Pier scandal have been deluged. The part of a true woman in an affair like this is to avoid publicity—not to add to it.

THE New York Commercial Advertiser takes this view of the case:

It is clear from the letters and statements of Mrs. SPRAGUE and her friends that she was obliged to call in counsel to aid her in her troubles with the media and the SPRAGUEs. It was at her request that Senator Conkling joined her at her old home at Canochet to advise in regard to her property. Had he any other purpose in view he would have met Mrs. SPRAGUE somewhere else than at Mr. SPRAGUE's home. How this perverse and wicked world is given to scandal and defamation!

THE Mormons, according to recent reliable reports, are nearly all Democrats, and State's Rights Democrats at that. If Utah should be admitted into the Union, with polygamy as a recognized institution, the Democrats would be compelled to maintain that "twain relic" as they did slavery, or repudiate the theory of State's Rights as based upon the DRED SCOTT decision. This fact is of itself sufficient to make Democrats of them, and also to induce the Democracy, for the sake of gaining two more Democratic Senators and another Democratic State, to admit Utah.

ONE of the Boston witnesses before Coffey-Pot WALLACE's outrage committee testified "reluctantly" last Saturday that Massachusetts elections are the freest in this country, the voters being as a rule free from restraining or bull-dozing influences. Verily, C.-P.-W. is rapidly becoming a satisfactory source of information to Chairman TELLER. The difference between the two, however, is apparent in the fact that Senator TELLER would have readily found witnesses to testify to this same truth without reluctance. Eventually Mr. WALLACE will discover that he has gone to the wrong section on his hunt for bull-dozers.

THE memorial of Dr. J. B. GREENE for an investigation of the affairs of the Newport cotton-house alleges, among other things, that the new appointments of the collector thereof had been filled "mainly" by the relatives of the Hon. H. B. ANTHONY. The testimony relating to this specific charge, when "boiled down," discloses the fact that it rests solely upon the appointment of one E. C. ALLEN, who is a son-in-law of CYRUS HARRIS, who is a cousin of Senator ANTHONY. This rather remote illustration of the crime of nepotism will not shock anyone in these parts out of their accustomed equilibrium.

GEORGIA was the first of the Southern States rescued from the rule of sealwags and carpet-baggers. Very naturally Georgia is now the leader of all the States in that section in official corruption, political scandal and administrative devility. At the same time she led off in reputation down South. All of which does not reflect material credit on Home Rule. With her Governor snatched, her Senators implicated in precarious prison contracts, her Comptroller under impeachment for peculations and bribing members of her Legislature, her State Treasurer a defaulter, and the execution of the laws of the General Government opposed by nearly all the people within her limits, she does not present the enchanting picture of reforms achieved and good government that was promised when her "rightful rulers" took hold of things.

THE PROSPECTIVE OF NEW YORK.

TILDEN and his friends think they have scored a run at Niagara Falls, and it looks so to a man up a tree. Chairman PURCELL called the committee to order under his call, and he soon ascertained that he had but fifteen of the committee on hand—the balance were canvassing and cooking up things in another room in the interest of TILDEN. After waiting for a season the TILDEN troops, eighteen in number, marched in. Chairman PURCELL, then again rapped the meeting to order, and then the TILDEN retainers quietly took possession, had everything their own way, and adjourned. JOHN KELLY, who was present, was as mild as a sucking dove, and the outlook is that there is no fight in Tammany. TILDEN has captured the committee, and will capture the State convention. ROBINSON will be re-nominated and Tammany will tail in behind and do the boozing in the election without even a protest. DORSEIMER will be cast overboard, and himself and his friends will sit down to a dish of crow and get outside of it with all possible alacrity. PORTER will probably take the place that DORSEIMER would have occupied but for his falling out with TILDEN and ROBINSON. DORSEIMER never has been happy while acting in a secondary relation to ROBINSON, for the simple reason that he regards himself as a "bigger man" than the Governor, and has felt a sense of humiliation in the relation for almost two long years.

It becomes the Republicans to study wisdom from this time to the third day of September, and be prepared to put a ticket in the field which will command the undivided strength and unimpaird confidence and zeal of the entire Republican party. The result of the first grapple between Tammany and TILDEN shows that the Cipher Oze has the control of the party machinery of the Democracy, and has determined to secure the State of New York as a scalp to adorn his belt for 1880. If the Republican party is wise he will be foiled, but if it goes into convention disturbed by personal considerations and divided by personal differences, it is liable to make mistakes which will bring fatal results to the Republican cause. Every source of difference must be laid upon the altar of party success, and the convention must present the issues of the day sharply and forcibly, without hesitancy or dodging. The issues of 1861 have been revived by the Democrats in Congress, and the Republicans of New York must accept them as presented, and press them upon the popular judgment with unrelenting persistence.

As to the ticket, it must be shaped to win a victory. There is plenty of good material in the field from which to make a nomination, which, placed upon a stalwart platform, cannot be beaten. If wisdom is permitted to rule the deliberation of the convention, the party will go to the people in an invincible shape and New York will be redeemed. But if

personal ambition is permitted to control the nomination under an undue pressure, regardless of success, then the chances are that defeat will follow. The party must entirely disregard personal ambition and seek ability, patriotism, high character and unswerving fidelity to principle, with a view to overcoming factions and personal prejudices, thus bringing the party into solid phalanx and making victory easy and sure. One thing is assured by history: Whenever the Republican party in New York is united and develops its full strength, and the repeaters, ballot-box stuffers and illegal voters are held under restraint, the State is secured to the Republican account. It must be so this fall unless we are ready to surrender all to the Confederates.

GEN. LEE'S OPINION OF GEN. GRANT.

The Cincinnati Commercial has recently given utterance to an interview that occurred between General R. E. LEE and a chaplain of the Union Army while General SHERMAN's forces rested at Richmond on their way to the National Capital, in which the distinguished leader of the Confederate army conversed very freely as to LINCOLN, General Grant and other prominent officers in the Union Army.

The writer says: Accompanied by General GRANT, afterward Governor GRANT, of Pennsylvania, and provided with a letter from General HAZEN, who knew General Lee at West Point, I was admitted to the presence of the illustrious commander. General Lee was erect and handsome, his easy smile and simple manner did not give him the appearance of a man of great intellect. He was very positive in his convictions, but in our long talk always weighed every sentence. President LINCOLN's assassination was unexpressed in our conversation. General Lee said: "The death of that eminent citizen has filled me with horror. If there were bleasings in his character, his life exhibited some splendid and noble qualities, and was of an extraordinary man that ever lived in our country. His heart was grand and large. He was constitutionally gentle. Had he been spared the South would be treated with more leniency, and with a gallant generosity; that good will and friendliness would have marked his treatment of the people of the South." General Lee was now asked the character of GRANT, of whom he spoke in the most friendly words and terms. He ascribed to him the possession of the noblest attributes of American manhood, and said that he possessed all the requisites and talents for the organization of armies. "I wish," said General Lee, "to do simple justice to General Grant when I say his treatment of the Army of Northern Virginia was without a parallel in the history of any civilized world. When my poor soldiers, with famished faces, had neither food nor clothing, it was then that General GRANT immediately issued the humane order that 40,000 rations should be turned to the impoverished troops. And that was not all of his magnanimity. I was giving directions to one of my staff officers, when making out the list of things to be sent to the army, and he told me that General GRANT, who seemed to be paying no attention to what was transpiring, quickly said: 'No, no, General Lee, not a horse—not one—keep them. Your men will need them for the spring crop.' It was a scene never to be forgotten to watch Lee's manner when, with a spirit of chivalry equal to his skill and gallantry, he told me that he would keep the horses. At that moment General GRANT, who seemed to be paying no attention to what was transpiring, quickly said: 'No, no, General Lee, not a horse—not one—keep them. Your men will need them for the spring crop.' It was a scene never to be forgotten to watch Lee's manner when, with a spirit of chivalry equal to his skill and gallantry, he told me that he would keep the horses. 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